

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A recording/reproduction apparatus comprising:

a first information recording means for recording ~~proper~~ information, ~~to be recorded~~ including information ~~on the~~ of a time and date of recording on a first recording medium from ~~the~~ a recording starting point of said first recording medium in ~~the~~ an order of time and date of recording;

a recording capacity determining means for judging if said first recording medium has a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information ~~to be recorded~~;

an oldest information detecting means for detecting one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of information having ~~the~~ an oldest time and date of recording out of ~~the~~ a plurality of pieces of information recorded on said first recording medium;

a recording control means for controlling ~~the~~ an operation of recording information not recorded on said first recording medium in ~~the~~ a recording area of said first recording medium and for storing said one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of information having the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said oldest information detecting means if the information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and said recording capacity determining means judges that said recording medium does not have said remaining recording capacity; and

an erasure prohibiting means for specifying one or more pieces of information recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium for prohibition of erasure;

wherein the oldest time and date of recording of said one or more pieces of information having been specified for the prohibition of erasure by the erasure prohibiting means are changed to have a current time and date of recording when said first recording medium is filled to capacity.

2. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising:~~ wherein

~~an erasure prohibiting means for specifying predetermined one or more than one pieces of information recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium for prohibition of erasure;~~

said recording control means ~~being~~ is adapted to [[so]] control said first information recording means so as to cause [[it]] the recording control means to record the information not recorded on said first recording medium in the recording area on said first recording medium ~~storing~~ and adapted to store the one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of recorded information having the oldest time and date of recording except said ~~predetermined~~ one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of recorded information specified by said erasure prohibiting means.

Claim 3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

a second information recording means for recording information on a second recording medium; and

a specification cancelling means for cancelling ~~the~~ a specification of said ~~predetermined~~ one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of recorded information for prohibition of erasure as specified by said erasure prohibiting means;

said recording control means ~~being~~ is adapted ~~as to so~~ to control said first information recording means, when a piece of information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and when it is determined by said recording capacity determining means that said first recording medium does not have a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, so as to cause said first information recording means to reproduce the one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of information stored on said recording medium with the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said oldest information detecting means out of the recording area of said first recording medium to be used for recording said information not recorded on said first recording medium and record the reproduced information on said second recording medium; and

said specification cancelling means ~~being~~ is adapted to cancel the prohibition of erasure of said ~~predetermined~~ one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of recorded information as specified by said erasure prohibiting means after ~~the~~ a completion of recording said information reproduced by said second information recording means on said second recording medium.

5. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim [[3]] 1, further comprising:

a second information recording means for recording information on a second recording medium;

~~an erasure prohibiting means for specifying predetermined one or more than one pieces of information recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium for prohibition of erasure; and~~

a specification cancelling means for cancelling ~~the~~ a specification of said ~~predetermined one or more than one~~ pieces of recorded information for prohibition of erasure as specified by said erasure prohibiting means;

said recording control means ~~being~~ is adapted ~~as to so~~ to control said first information recording means, when a piece of information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and when it is determined by said recording capacity determining means that said first recording medium does not have a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, so as to cause said first information recording means to reproduce the one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of information stored on said recording medium with the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said oldest information detecting means out of the recording area of said first recording medium to be used for recording said information not recorded on said first recording medium, ~~use the information on the time and date of recording the information as reproduced by said time and date of recording changing means as the most recent information and record said reproduced information on said second recording medium; and~~

said specification cancelling means ~~being~~ is adapted to cancel the prohibition of erasure of said ~~predetermined one or more than one~~ pieces of recorded information as specified by said erasure prohibiting means after ~~the~~ a completion of recording said information reproduced by said second information recording means on said second recording medium.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

a second information recording means for recording information on a second recording medium;

~~an erasure prohibiting means for specifying predetermined one or more than one pieces of information recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium for prohibition of erasure; and~~

a specification cancelling means for cancelling the specification of said ~~predetermined one or more than one~~ pieces of recorded information for prohibition of erasure as specified by said erasure prohibiting means;

said recording control means ~~being~~ is adapted ~~as to so to~~ to control said first information recording means, when a piece of information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and when it is determined by said recording capacity determining means that said first recording medium does not have a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, so as to cause said first information recording means to reproduce the one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of information stored on said recording medium with the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said oldest information detecting means out of the recording area of said first recording medium to be used for recording said information not recorded on said first recording medium, ~~use the information on the time and date of recording the information as reproduced by said time and date of recording changing means as the most recent information and record said reproduced information on said second recording medium; and~~

said specification cancelling means ~~being~~ is adapted to cancel the prohibition of erasure of said ~~predetermined~~ one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of recorded information as specified by said erasure prohibiting means after ~~the~~ a completion of recording said information reproduced by said second information recording means on said second recording medium.

7. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim [[3]] 1, further comprising:

a second information recording means for recording information on a second recording medium;

~~an erasure prohibiting means for specifying predetermined one or more than one pieces of information recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium for prohibition of erasure; and~~

a specification cancelling means for cancelling the specification of said ~~predetermined~~ one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of recorded information for prohibition of erasure as specified by said erasure prohibiting means;

said recording control means ~~being~~ is adapted ~~as to so~~ to control said first information recording means, when a piece of information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and when it is determined by said recording capacity determining means that said first recording medium does not have a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, so as to cause said first information recording means to reproduce said ~~predetermined~~ one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of information specified by said erasure prohibiting means and stored on said recording medium out of the recording area of said first recording medium to be used for recording said information not recorded on said first

recording medium[[,]] ~~use the information on the time and date of recording the information as reproduced by said time and date of recording changing means as the most recent information and record said reproduced information on said second recording medium; and~~

said specification cancelling means ~~being~~ is adapted to cancel the prohibition of erasure of said ~~predetermined~~ one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of recorded information as specified by said erasure prohibiting means after ~~the~~ a completion of recording said information reproduced by said second information recording means on said second recording medium.

8. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

a second recording capacity determining means for judging if said second recording medium has a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information ~~to be recorded~~; and

a second oldest information detecting means for detecting one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of information having ~~the~~ an oldest time and date of recording out of ~~the~~ a plurality of pieces of information recorded on said second recording medium;

said second information recording means ~~being~~ is adapted to record said information to be recorded as accompanied by the information on the time and date of recording on said second recording medium in ~~the~~ an order of scheduled time and date of recording from ~~the~~ a starting point for recording on said second recording medium; and

said recording control means ~~being~~ is adapted ~~as to so~~ to control said second information recording means, when a piece of information not recorded on said second recording medium is supplied and when it is determined by said second recording capacity determining

means that said second recording medium does not have a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, so as to cause said second information recording means to record said information not recorded on said second recording medium in the recording area on said second recording medium ~~storing~~ and to store said one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of information having the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said second oldest information detecting means[[]].

9. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:

a second recording capacity determining means for judging if said second recording medium has a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information ~~to be recorded~~; and

a second oldest information detecting means for detecting one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of information having ~~the~~ an oldest time and date of recording out of ~~the~~ a plurality of pieces of information recorded on said second recording medium;

said second information recording means ~~being~~ is adapted to record said information to be recorded as accompanied by the information on the time and date of recording on said second recording medium in ~~the~~ an order of scheduled time and date of recording from ~~the~~ a starting point for recording on said second recording medium; and

said recording control means ~~being~~ is adapted ~~as to so~~ to control said second information recording means, when a piece of information not recorded on said second recording medium is supplied and when it is determined by said second recording capacity determining means that said second recording medium does not have a remaining recording capacity

sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, so as to cause said second information recording means to record said information not recorded on said second recording medium in the recording area on said second recording medium ~~storing~~ and to store said one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of information having the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said second oldest information detecting means[[:]].

10. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the time and date when the reproduced information is recorded by said second information recording means on said second recording medium is treated as if the time and date when said information is recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium.

11. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the time and date when the reproduced information is recorded by said second information recording means on said second recording medium is treated as if the time and date when said information is recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium.

12. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a display section for displaying the one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of recorded information with the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said oldest information

detecting means except said one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of recorded information specified by said erasure prohibiting means.

13. (Currently Amended) A recording/reproduction method comprising the steps
of:

~~a first information recording step of first recording proper~~ information to be recorded in a first information recording means, including information ~~on the~~ of a time and date of recording on a first recording medium from ~~the~~ a recording starting point of said first recording medium in ~~the~~ an order of time and date of recording;

~~a recording capacity determining step of judging if said first recording medium~~ has a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information ~~to be recorded~~;

~~an oldest information detecting step of detecting one or more than one~~ pieces of information having ~~the~~ an oldest time and date of recording out of ~~the~~ a plurality of pieces of information recorded on said first recording medium; ~~and~~

~~a recording updating step of second recording of~~ information not recorded on said first recording medium in ~~the~~ a recording area of said first recording medium;

storing said one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of information having the oldest time and date of recording as detected in said ~~oldest information~~ detecting step if the information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and it is judged in said ~~recording capacity~~ determining step that said recording medium does not have said remaining recording capacity;
and

specifying one or more pieces of information recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium for prohibition of erasure;

wherein the oldest time and date of recording of said one or more pieces of information having been specified for the prohibition of erasure are changed to have a current time and date of recording when said first recording medium is filled to capacity.

14. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The recording/reproduction method according to claim 13, ~~further comprising:~~ wherein

~~an erasure prohibiting step of specifying predetermined one or more than one pieces of information recorded on said first recording medium in said first information recording step for prohibition of erasure;~~

the information not recorded on said first recording medium ~~being~~ is recorded in the recording area on said first recording medium ~~storing~~ and one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of recorded information having the oldest time and date of recording except said ~~predetermined~~ one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of recorded information specified by said ~~erasure prohibiting means~~ in said second recording ~~updating~~ step are stored.

Claim 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The recording/reproduction method according to claim 13, wherein when a piece of information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and when it is determined in said ~~recording capacity determining~~ judging step that said first recording medium does not have a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, the one or more ~~than one~~ pieces of information stored on said recording medium with the oldest time and date of recording as detected in said ~~oldest~~

information detecting step are reproduced out of the recording area of said first recording medium to be used for recording said information not recorded on said first recording medium and the reproduced information is recorded on said second recording medium in said second recording ~~updating~~ step.